

SOVEREIGN GRACE CHURCH

August 7th, 2016

“As for me, I will behold thy
face in righteousness: I shall
be satisfied, when I awake,
with THY likeness.”

PSALM 17:15

JOSEPH D. MURPHY, PASTOR

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August 7th, 2016

Schedule of Services

Sunday School 10:00 am

Sunday Worship 11:00 am

Wednesday Worship 7:00 pm

Nursery

Nursery available for 4 years old and younger

Happy Birthday!

Troy Church - August 5th, Matt Spring - August 9th

No one is saved in time who was not saved before time began; and all who were saved *“in CHRIST JESUS before the world began”* shall be saved in time. (2 TIMOTHY 1:9)

PASTOR **DON FORTNER**

As the LORD leads you, please remember Shirley Shanks in prayer

HE SHALL SIT, HE SHALL PURIFY

“...HE SHALL SIT AS A REFINER AND PURIFIER OF SILVER: AND HE SHALL PURIFY THE SONS OF LEVI, AND PURGE THEM AS GOLD AND SILVER, THAT THEY MAY OFFER UNTO THE LORD AN OFFERING IN RIGHTEOUSNESS.”

What blessed words are here contained in this verse. May GOD grant both the writer and the reader of this article, grace to see and understand the gospel of our Salvation declared in this verse, and be comforted in CHRIST.

“...he shall sit...”

The prophet sets forth here in these words that our SOVEREIGN REDEEMER will finish the saving work of His people. The prophet declares *“HE SHALL SIT”*. Paul writes, in fulfillment of this gospel promise, that our GOD and KING, CHRIST the LORD, *“sat down.”*

Perhaps you’ve heard the expression *‘stop sitting on the job’*, it carries with it the idea that someone has unfinished work to do,

and rather than finish it, lazily sits around. Beloved, when Paul tells us that our blessed LORD *“sat down”*, he is declaring the gospel of our salvation. Everything a sinner like me, and a sinner like you, desperately needs to be saved before our HEAVENLY FATHER, our LORD JESUS has accomplished! A full and complete pardon of sins, and a perfect spotless *righteousness* that lacks nothing. Our Lord declared *“It is finished.”* Beloved *“ye are complete in HIM”*!

“...he shall purify...”

Throughout this verse the prophet sets forth our salvation, by telling us plainly that *“he shall purify”*! What gospel comfort is here contained for you beloved. Do you remember what the angel of the Lord declared to Joseph? *“[Mary] shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for HE SHALL save HIS people from their sins.”* Beloved, the Holy Spirit, tells us through HIS servant Paul that our LORD JESUS (The brightness of the Father’s glory, the expression image of the Father’s person, the One who upholds everything) *“by himself purged our sins.”* Beloved, *“All things were made by [CHRIST]; and without him was not any thing made that was made.”* Our God, CHRIST JESUS the LORD, whom the prophet declared *“SHALL SIT”* and *“SHALL PURIFY”* — has *“SAT DOWN”* beloved and has by himself *“PURIFIED”* us from all our sins. Ye sons of Levi, rejoice! He has *“by himself purged our sins.”*

PASTOR

BEING SAVED

“AS FOR ME, I WILL BEHOLD THY FACE IN RIGHTEOUSNESS: I SHALL BE SATISFIED, WHEN I AWAKE, WITH THY LIKENESS.” (PSALM 17:15)

Those who have *been saved* are those who *“are being saved”* (1 CORINTHIANS 1:18; PHILIPPIANS 2:12,13). Those who have *learned* of CHRIST are those who are also *“learning”* of HIM (JOHN 6:45; MATTHEW 11:29). Those who truly *know* the LORD are those who *“desire to know Him”* (PHILIPPIANS 3.7-10). Those who have *seen* the glory of GOD in the face of JESUS CHRIST are those who continue to cry unto the LORD, *“I beseech Thee, show me Thy glory”* (EXODUS 33:18). These are the people who say, from the heart, *“As for me, I will behold thy face in righteousness: I shall be satisfied, when I awake, with Thy righteousness”* (PSALM 17:15)

PASTOR **MAURICE MONTGOMERY**

Beloved, while the Lord declares to father Abraham, “...*now I know that thou fearest God, seeing thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only son from me*”, may we say, as poor sinners who believe on Christ ‘*O Lord and Father, now I know thou dost love a poor, sinful, unworthy worm as I am, seeing thou hast not withheld thy Son, thine only Son from me.*’

(GENESIS 22:12, JOHN 3:16)

Now I Know

“*NOW I KNOW THAT THOU FEAREST GOD, SEEING THOU HAST NOT WITHHELD THY SON, THINE ONLY SON FROM ME.*” (GENESIS 22:12)

“*Now I know.*” Did not the Lord know before? Oh yes; but he that gave Abraham the faith, now afforded an opportunity for the exercise of it. My soul, how blessed is it to remark, that the largest gifts of grace are dispensed, when there is the largest occasion for them. “*As thy days, so shall thy strength be.*” And, my soul, do not forget to remark also, that our Isaacs, our children, our earthly comforts, are most likely to be continued to us, when the Lord gives grace and faith to be most ready at his holy will to part with them. When I can say, LORD, all that thou hast given me is thine; and if thou art pleased to take all, or any part back again, still it is thine own—not mine, but lent. Oh, for grace, like Abraham, to bless a *taking* GOD, as well as a *giving* GOD, and to withhold nothing from HIM. Pause, my soul, one moment longer over this precious portion. Is there nothing more to be gathered from it? Look again; read it over once more. Pass beyond Abraham, and contemplate the GOD of Abraham, and see if thou canst not discover the infinite, unequalled, astonishing love of GOD the FATHER typified in this solemn transaction; and while we behold Abraham, at the call of GOD, giving up his son, his only son; may we not behold GOD, uncalled, unsought, and without any one cause but his own free everlasting love, giving up his only begotten SON, as a sacrifice for the redemption of his people? The patriarch gave up his son but in intention; but GOD in reality. And, my soul, what oughtest thou now to say to GOD in the view of this transaction? Methinks I find authority, from these sweet words, to make a paraphrase upon them, and to make application of them, for all and every circumstance with which I may be exercised; and, looking up to GOD my FATHER in CHRIST JESUS, I would say, ‘*Now, O LORD and FATHER, I know thou dost love a poor, sinful, unworthy worm as I am, seeing thou hast not withheld thy SON, thine only SON from me.*’

PASTOR **ROBERT HAWKER**